

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

*WHEREAS*, older Americans are treasured members of society, imparting wisdom and offering historical perspective; and

*WHEREAS*, older individuals have contributed to our economic well-being, our communities and the workplace through civic leadership and mentoring; and

*WHEREAS*, our seniors are increasingly multi-cultural and multi-generational; more diverse socially, ethnically and economically than past generations, and remain active and productive, volunteering their time, talents, and expertise, thereby enriching all our lives; and

*WHEREAS*, it is important to support our older residents so they may enjoy active, productive, healthy, and independent lives; and

*WHEREAS*, many older individuals need the assistance of their communities to thrive, and we must collaborate to find new and innovative ways to meet their needs; and

*WHEREAS*, it is appropriate that Washington State join the nation and designate the month of May as a time to celebrate the contributions of older Americans and to rededicate our efforts to better serve our elders;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 2009 as

### *Older Americans Month*

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2009

Governor Christine O. Gregoire

